<u>REMARKS</u>

The claims are 1, 2, 4, 5 and 8-28.

The above amendment is responsive to points set forth in the Official Action.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 3, 4 and 6-15 if rewritten in independent form.

In reply, the features of claim 3 have been incorporated in claim 1 and claim 3 has been cancelled.

Similarly, the features of claim 6 have been incorporated in claim 1 and claim 6 has been cancelled. The resulting claim is new claim 16.

The remaining claims are dependent on claims 1 and 16.

Claim 11 is now dependent on claim 1 as above amended and new claim 24, which corresponds to claim 11 as dependent on claim 16 is presented.

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that all of the claims in this application are now in condition for allowance and an early indication to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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